Abolition of Contract System in FCI

1579. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether Govemment have decided to abolish contract system in the Food Corporation of India;

(b) whether it is a fact that a court has given a decision to revert to Contract System in FCI depots where the handling workers were departmentalised, as per notification as reported in Economic Times of 14th June, 1993: and

(c) if so, by when the Contract System is likely to be abolished and the handling workers also to be departmentalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) It has been the constant policy of the Government to replace Private Contract Labour System by Labour Cooperative Society formed by the Labourers working in the depots. Keeping this in view, it was announced on 29th March, 1993 in the FCI Workers' Union Convention held at Chandigarh that Contract System would be abolished in FCI depots in punjab.

(b) No, Sir. There is no decision/order of any Court regarding reversion to Contract System in FCI. The news report in Economic Times of 14-6-1993 has apparently brought out misconception of the Labourers about the announcement and suggested that the contract system is clearly a better option for the FCI.

(c) abolition of Contract System need not necessarilly be departmentalisation of workers. It has been the policyof the Government to bring the handling labourers under the fold of Labour Cooperative Society System formed by the labourers themselves to eliminate the middleman between the workers and the Food Corporation of India. In Order to encourage the workers to form a Cooperative Society, several concession are extended to them as compared to the private contractors.

Closure of Sugar Mills in Bihar

1580. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a number of sugar mills have been closed down in Bihar rendering 8 thousands labourers unemployed:

(b) if so. whether Government have considered the desirability of taking over the closed sugar mills in public interest; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) :(a) Three sugar mills viz. New Sevan. Bihta and Guraru of the Bihar State Sugar Corporation have not crushed cane during the last two sugar seasons (October-September). Two other sugar mills, namely Pachrukhi and Dalmianagar are chronically closed since long.

(b) and (c) Three mills belong to the Bihar State Sugar Corporation Ltd. and it is upto the State Government to take remedial steps to restart them. The other two are chronically closed since a long time and it may be difficult to revive them at this stage.

Crushing Capacities of Sugar Mills

1581. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) what is the per capita availability of sugar in India and what is the average per capita consumption of Sugar in the advanced countries of the world;

(b) whether it is a fact that about 2.5 million tonnes of sugarcane are being burnt each year due to inadequate crushing capacity in the sugar mills, as indicated by a study conducted by the Centre of advanced Development Research, Lucknow,

(c) what was the production of the sugarcane in India during 1992-93 and how much of it was crushed by sugar mills to produce crystal sugar and how much for making Khandsari and gur;

(d) what is the present crushing capacity of sugar mills in India; and

(e) what steps are being contemplated by Government to increase the crushing capacity per annum for the next ten years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The percapita availability of sugar in